DEC-23-03 02:56AM FROM-AKERMAN SENTERFITT

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T-447 P.04/15 F-200

PATENT . Docket No 6169-155

Appin. No.

09/596,257

Confirmation No. 3198

Applicant

Nusbickel June 16, 2000

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TC/A.U.

Filed

2126

Cao, Diem K.

Examiner

6169-155

DEC 2 2 2003

Docket No. IBM Docket No.

BOC9-2000-0012

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the office action mailed September 22, 2003 (Final Office Action), please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this submission.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this submission.

{WP153603:1}

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile transmission to Commissioner for

Patents at 703-872-9306 on

PAGE 4/15 * RCVD AT 12/22/2003 2:56:45 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:5616596313 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-58